

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The present disclosure provides approaches for reducing buildup of particulate-matter in particulate-matter-delivery systems. In some embodiments, a trough-shaped feeder is provided in which a rectangular-to-elliptical conduit extends from the trough-shaped feeder. The trough-shaped feeder has a substantially-rectangular feeder opening. The rectangular-to-elliptical conduit has an elliptical end and a rectangular end. The elliptical end of the rectangular-to-elliptical conduit has a substantially-elliptical conduit opening. Interfacing the storage hopper to the trough-shaped feeder via a elliptical-to-rectangular conduit reduces the particulate-matter-delivery system's susceptibility to bridges and rat holes.